TARTAN NOIR
There is life in crime

200 YEARS OF FREE SPEECH
How the Scotsman was born

Bright Spark
Celebrating the life of Dame Muriel Spark –
the crème de la crème
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Show</th>
<th>Dates</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TRAINSPOTTING</strong></td>
<td>Tue 14 to Sat 18 Nov</td>
<td>KING’S THEATRE</td>
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<tr>
<td>By Irvine Welsh</td>
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<td>Adapted by Harry Gibson</td>
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<td>Directed by Gareth Nicholls</td>
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<td><strong>LA TRAVIATA</strong></td>
<td>Wed 15, Sun 19, Tue 21, Thu 23 &amp; Sat 25 Nov</td>
<td>FESTIVAL THEATRE</td>
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<td><strong>LEGALLY BLONDE</strong></td>
<td>Mon 27 Nov to Sat 2 Dec</td>
<td>FESTIVAL THEATRE</td>
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<td>Rita Simons</td>
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<td>Lucie Jones &amp; Bill Ward</td>
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<td><strong>CINDERELLA</strong></td>
<td>Sat 2 Dec to Sun 21 Jan</td>
<td>KING’S THEATRE</td>
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<td>Allan Stewart, Andy Gray, Grant Stott</td>
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<td><strong>THE TIN SOLDIER</strong></td>
<td>Thu 7 to Sat 23 Dec</td>
<td>THE STUDIO</td>
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<td>Hans Christian Andersen</td>
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<td><strong>THE NUTCRACKER</strong></td>
<td>Sat 9 Dec to Sat 30 Dec</td>
<td>FESTIVAL THEATRE</td>
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<td><strong>PRESSURE</strong></td>
<td>Tue 13 to Sat 17 Feb</td>
<td>KING’S THEATRE</td>
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<td>David Haig</td>
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<td><strong>THE WEIR</strong></td>
<td>Tue 20 to Sat 24 Feb</td>
<td>KING’S THEATRE</td>
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<td>Conor McPherson</td>
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Exhibitions and events celebrate authors who have gained an international reputation, been cruelly overlooked or are experts in crime

Our writers of renown

Few 20th century Scottish writers have had greater global appeal than Muriel Spark. Though Edinburgh-born and raised, she was always looking outward, and life circumstances, as well as her determination to be a successful writer, saw her take up residence in places as diverse as Southern Rhodesia, London, New York, Rome and Tuscany.

The Library’s winter exhibition, “The International Style of Muriel Spark”, allows us to showcase items from her amazing archive that have never before been seen by the public. It is our main contribution to a nationwide celebration of her work and life in the centenary year of her birth which falls in 2018.

A sadder centenary took place in November – the death during the First World War of another Scots writer, EA Mackintosh. Compared favourably with fellow war poets Wilfrid Owen and Rupert Brooke, Mackintosh’s life was all too brief. He died aged just 24, nevertheless his words take pride of place on the Scottish-American War Memorial in Princes Street Gardens, Edinburgh.

Many of today’s successful Scottish authors operate in the genre known as “Tartan Noir”. Eager to support all of the country’s literary sectors, we were delighted to back the annual Bloody Scotland festival in Stirling which celebrates the country’s rich crime writing tradition.

We also focus on the extraordinary tale of runner Kathleen Connochie whose 1955 performance in “the world’s toughest race” proved a pivotal moment in the perception of female athletes.

As always, there is a lot to stimulate and fascinate – enjoy!

Dr John Scally, National Librarian

e: NationalLibrarian@nls.uk
NEWS
Discover more about our new map search facility, a move for the Maps Reading Room, our summer interns and the latest from Scotland’s Sounds

STAR IN A GOLDEN ERA
How Kathleen Connochie proved that she was more than a match for the men in “the world’s toughest race”

INTERNATIONAL STYLE
We explore how Muriel Spark, the crème de la crème of Scottish writers, was truly a woman of the world

STRONG IN PRIDE
First World War poet EA Mackintosh has been compared to Owen and Brooke but his work has often been overlooked

TWO CENTURIES OF NEWS
We look back at a venerable national institution, the Scotsman newspaper, which is 200 years old in 2017

THERE’S BEEN A MURDER
The Library celebrates the best of Scottish crime writing

CONTRIBUTORS...

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ROGUES GALLERY
FACES OF CRIME
1870~1917

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MAKING A MARK – NEW SEARCH INTERFACE FOR OUR ONLINE MAPS

It’s also possible to position the map and marker by searching for places using a gazetteer of names, addresses or postcodes, and the map locates to your place of interest. As before, you can also search for all our maps by mapmaker and by series/groups too.

Try it out at: maps.nls.uk/geo/find/marker/

NEW LOCATION FOR MAPS READING ROOM

The Library’s Maps Reading Room is in a new home. It is now located on the third floor of the Causewayside building in Edinburgh, close to the public entrance on Salisbury Place.

It is open to anyone wishing to consult printed or digital mapping from the Library’s collections. The map collection includes approximately 2 million items, from early printed atlases to modern digital mapping, and unique manuscripts to books about maps and mapmaking.

The room is equipped with a large height adjustable map table, as well as smaller height-adjustable desks. PCs are available for readers, and there are plug points if readers wish to use their own laptops.

Opening hours are 10am to 1pm, and 2pm to 5pm, Monday to Thursday. Access is by appointment, which can be made at www.nls.uk/using-the-library/reading-rooms/maps/appointments or by phoning or e-mailing the maps team.

Join us for our annual Christmas shopping day

There will be yuletide bargains and festive treats galore; we’re sure we’ll have something for everyone.

Thursday 14 December
10.00am – 8.00pm
George IV Bridge, Edinburgh

ENJOY A 15% DISCOUNT ON EVERYTHING IN OUR SHOP

Once you’ve shopped, relax with our festive entertainment. This year, it will be provided by the choir of St John’s Church, Princes Street, Edinburgh. There will be carol singing in between 6.00–6.30pm and 6.45–7.15pm.

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The Centre for Lifelong Learning is part of the University of Strathclyde in Glasgow and has been offering courses to adults for 30 years. Blaze, online creative writing courses, allow us to take our expertise in writing tuition to a much wider audience. The three courses are designed to suit writers of all levels and will inspire you, motivate you, keep you on track and put you in the virtual company of other writers.

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Commencing 18 January and 16 April 2019.

Feeding the Flame: creative writing for writers
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Writing is a balance of inspiration and hard graft. Staying motivated and excited about writing even through the difficult periods remains crucial for all writers. This course is for you if you are already writing on your own and have some confidence in sharing your work with others.
Commencing 18 January and 16 April 2019.

Inferno: novel writing
(10 University of Strathclyde credits)
For those who are writing independently and want integrated feedback from the tutor and other writers, this is an intensive course in which you engage in critical feedback with your tutor and other students and there is an open forum where issues of writing, creativity and editing can be discussed.
Commencing 18 April 2019.

If you are resident in Scotland and meet the criteria, you can use SANS Part-Time Fee Grant to fund these classes. If you study full credits in year 2017-18.

Course costs for 10 weeks and at £162.
For further information on how to receive a bursary please contact:
0141 548 2116 or email info-learn@strath.ac.uk
or visit us at www.strath.ac.uk/studywithus/centreforlifelonglearning

Why not also consider our Creative Writing Mentoring Programme for writers wishing bespoke feedback on their work? Visit www.strath.ac.uk/studywithus/centreforlifelonglearning, (Find us in online courses).

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Centre for Open Learning
The Sport of the Gael: 80 years of the BBC and shinty

Shinty and the BBC have been inextricably linked for nearly 90 years and, for the first time, the history of the relationship has been recounted to mark the 80th anniversary of the first ever live radio broadcast, or “running commentary” of Camanachd Cup Finals.

It was in 1937 that the BBC first broadcast the Camanachd Cup Final in a match between Newtonmore and Oban Celtic. It eventually ended in controversy, following a replay which involved police intervention. It was also the first shinty match where teams used numbers on players’ backs to help the commentators to identify them.

The lead commentator on the first ever live radio coverage was the Rev Roderick MacSwan Boyd (pictured), who had played with some distinction alongside his brothers in Portree for Skye. He also played for Glasgow Slye and against the Irish at Parkhead, although his mother apparently would not allow him to go to Dublin for the return match.

He had a fascinating history in a really interesting period when Gaelic, and indeed Scottish broadcasting were in their earliest days. The Rev MacSwan Boyd eventually ended up playing shinty for Aberdeen University and it was when he was a minister in Alness that he was taken on board by the BBC by Hugh MacPhee of Ballachulish, who had recently been appointed as a producer.

Over the intervening years, some of the biggest names in sports broadcasting have been involved in shinty coverage, including commentators such as David Francey, Alister Alexander, Bill Johnston and David Begg.

The BBC’s current shinty commentator, Dr Hugh Dan MacLennan, is currently Sports Writer in Residence at the National Library of Scotland. He delivered a series of talks in the autumn on the subject of shinty and the BBC.
The Library has been playing host to a unique initiative to help preserve and share Scotland’s sounds.

It is co-ordinating the Scotland’s Sounds network – a forum for people who hold or have an interest in archive sound recordings – to find ways to preserve access to the country’s audio heritage.

Over the past two years, more than 80 organisations have come together to champion Scotland’s rich sound heritage through the Connecting Scotland’s Sounds project. Funded by the Esmée Fairbairn Foundation, these partnerships have helped to deliver training events, coaching programmes and engagement activities with public audiences and communities across the country.

Alistair Bell, Sound Collections Curator at the Library, said: “Over the past two years we’ve run 18 training events to grow the skills and expertise of a wide range of people looking after archive sound recordings. We look forward to building on this momentum through continuing to champion and co-ordinate the Scotland’s Sounds network of over 300 stakeholders.”

Audiences have had the opportunity to connect with Gaelic and Scots song, interviews with LGBT people, spoken testimonies from the Borders, and fishing music from across Scotland to name just a few items.

Amy McDonald, Engagement and Learning Co-ordinator, said: “Through Connecting Scotland’s Sounds we’ve worked with lots of project partners to creatively engage new listeners with Scotland’s rich sound heritage through drama, film, poetry, print-making, song, animations, music, podcasts and more. We’ve been delighted by how inspiring our audiences have found the recordings.”

Hearing our heritage

Press Play animation workshop, Hawick Library © Phil Wilkinson

Spread the Word day at the Rockfield Centre, Oban © Ewen Munro

All Ear’s seminar, McManus, Dundee © Phil Wilkinson
THE EARLY YEARS OF THE REFORMATION

Five hundred years ago, Martin Luther nailed his ‘95 theses' to a church door, an act which ignited religious revolution across Europe.

I n the autumn of 1517, Martin Luther, a relatively unknown monk lecturing in a minor German University town, put up a poster with 95 theses in Latin with the intention of stimulating an academic debate. The debate never took place, but the publication and translation of these 95 theses sparked developments which splintered Catholic Europe and changed the course of history.

The nailing of the 95 theses to the door of the Castle Church at Wittenberg is officially commemorated on 31 October, and 2017 marked the 500th anniversary of this far-reaching event. A selection of the Library’s original tracts from 1517 to 1523, most of them on deposit from the Balcarres Heritage Trust, will be on display to tell the story of the early Lutheran Reformation: what sparked it, what was it about, and how it unfolded.

Martin Luther (1486–1543), an Augustinian monk, priest and university lecturer, heard about the hard sale of indulgences from his parishioners in the confessionary. Indulgences were basically an insurance against the wrath of God: by buying one, you could avoid...
temporal punishment in purgatory. The sale of indulgences was a lucrative source of income for the Pope and the papal administration, the Curia, and Luther was certainly not the first to criticise the practice. However, his 95 theses had an entirely unprecedented and indeed unexpected impact. They were printed in both broadside and book form and translated into German, and copies spread like wildfire across the Holy Roman Empire. This Empire was a multilingual realm consisting of several hundred territories in northern and central Europe. Politically, socially and spiritually it was in turmoil. The Emperor Maximilian I was on his deathbed and looking for a suitable successor. Meanwhile Pope Leo X, a Medici Renaissance prince, was not only concerned with the spiritual welfare of the Church but also with maintaining the political power of the Vatican State. Political intrigue was rife.

The last thing he needed was Luther’s attack on his authority. Intent on nipping the protest in the bud, the Pope set out to silence the unruly monk. In 1518, Luther was interrogated by a papal legate during the Imperial Diet of Augsburg where the Holy Roman Emperor met with the Imperial Estates. However, the Pope depended on Luther’s patron, Elector Friedrich III of Saxony, to elect the Pope’s favourite as the next Emperor, so Luther was left in peace for the time being. A year after the election, which incidentally did not put the Pope’s favourite on the throne, the Pope threatened Luther with excommunication. A papal bull was issued to that effect, but it took four months to reach Luther in Wittenberg. In the interim, Luther published a series of texts now seen as crucial to the Reformation. They included his address to the German nobility, which presented a comprehensive social, educational and economic programme for their subjects, and his revolutionary thoughts on the freedom of Christians, who he argued were only answerable to God and their conscience based on the Bible.

The papal bull demanded that Luther recant 41 of his 95 theses. In response, he threw the bull along with church law books into the bonfire of a book burning in Wittenberg. Now the Pope acted on his threat and issued the bull that finally excommunicated Luther as a heretic. This church ban meant that Luther was no longer a monk and priest, was not allowed to preach or take part in the sacraments. Again, he was summoned to an Imperial Diet, at Worms in April 1521. He famously refused to recant, concluding with the words “To that God help me”. The new Emperor Charles V followed suit and imposed the imperial ban on Luther. Now his works could no longer be printed, sold and distributed, nobody was allowed to house, feed or help him or his followers, and anybody could kill him with impunity: the heretic Luther was outlawed.

He had been granted safe conduct back to Wittenberg, but Luther’s patron, Elector Friedrich III of Saxony, didn’t want to take any chances and had Luther abducted and taken into protective captivity in the Wartburg Castle. Enconced in the castle’s tower, he used the unexpected free time to translate the New Testament into German. He completed this monumental task within an astonishing eleven weeks. Luther’s translation of the Gospel for the people has shaped the German vernacular language to this day.

The spread of the Reformation was unthinkable without the printing press. Luther and his followers, as well as their opponents, were quick to harness what was the social media of their day.
Words were truly alive on the tongue, in the head
Warm, beating, frantic, winged; music and blood
— FROM ‘LITTLE RED CAP’ BY CAROL ANN DUFFY

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Our Scots Scriever says farewell as his time in post comes to an end

A

s the two year tairm o the Scots Scriever residency at the National Library o Scotland draws tae a close – it is time tae gie some thocht as tae whith haes been for the maist part a byous carrant throu lang centuries o Scots literature, as well as some gey intrestin educational engagement in the various airts o Scotland. We glent back wi some hawp that these efforts micht even gang some smaw wey in takdin tent o the mony challenges faced in the future promuvin o Scots in its true licht, a leid wi genuine European provenance whose werts wi ansoms a continuity tae impack oan oor speech, literatur an brider consciousness intae these praisent times. Gien that Scots has had tae thole a wheen adversities ower lang centuries; nae least its submission (leastweys in tairms o its official context) tae the mair dominant scrievit leid o staundart English, it remains the case that Scots continues tae face some frawart an affines ill-conceived judgements oan its staundin, as a gisk at ony comments section or social media forum will attest when the question o Scots comes tae the fore. Scots, tae its doowie mistoife tae, remains misunderstood by an apparently muckle swade o the populace, even amang thaim that yaise it oan a daily basis! The characteristic slanders are (somewhit predictably) reenged up, namely that Scots is: slang, chavvie, poor English, inferior English, just a dialect (of English), bastardised English, etc. A linguistic abberation it wid seem, unfit fir purpose in any civilised dialogue, scrievit or spoken.

Aw the mair important then that some opportunity is gien in endeavours sic as the Scots Scriever residency tae conter these obtrusive an damaging misconceptions. Tae kythe hou the muckle positives tae be takken frae Scots – throu its literary an oral traditions – can faur ootweigh these ill-thocht negatives. Tae fuse anither particle tae the critical mass o understandin (though yet still a faur wey aff), Tae add anither stane tae the cairn.

As the Scriever residency has hopfully shawn – ther are mony positives tae be takken frae the public’s engagement wi Scots. Oor Wee Windaes website, biggit frae jist a buckle o the Library’s literary treisurs, frae the fifteenth century ‘Buke of the Howlat’ tae twintieth century novels an reflections on contemporary literatur an attitudes o language, has haed an eident partner in the shape o Education Scotland wha hae contributit education packs tae each feature or ‘windae’. Anither recent welcome partner haes been the University o Edinbrugh’s Linguistic Department wha will gie further educational acowth tae the site. It is o muckle satisfaction that Wee Windaes haes growne as an interactive educational resource.

The outreach programme oot–throu the Scriever residency haes ainly served tae strengthen the realisation that frae primary schuil bairns tae pensioner groups ther is genuine passion an intrest in the Scots leid, tae lairm, share, an maist importantly tae enjoy the experience o Scots. Frae East Kilbride tae Dundee, Tain, Inverness, Perth, Melrose, Ayr, Lanarkshire an a wheen ither places in atween, workshops an discussions witan tae nursery, schuils, libraries, community groups, buke fesivals, music festivals, a prison, ceilidhs, cinemas, universities (in Scotland an via Skype tae Barcelona). The experience wis invariably positive. The future, it is apparent, wi the richt political, financial an educational support cuid potentially be brighter an gey healthier than the ill–hauen comments o the naysayers micht suggest. Mair particles, please, tae the critical mass. Mair stanes, aye, chuckies, boulders an aw, tae the cairn.

Wi these thocht oan the Scots Scriever residency it leas me tae gie thanks tae colleagues in the National Library an aye wha gied support tae the proceedings. Alice Heywood fir muckle support wi Wee Windaes an ootreach. Colleagues at General Collections, wi mention tae Andrew Martin (retired) wha gied guid guidance frae the ootset. Ralph McLean, Manuscripts. Kenny Redpath an Beverley Casebow fir Events. The Library digitisation team fir byous work oan Wee Windaes. Katrina Lucas for educational work on Wee Windaes. Mark Haddon fir web design. Bruce Eunson an associates at Education Scotland. Rhona Alcorn, University of Edinburgh. Kirsty Gallacher at IntoFilm. James King, Scottish Prison Service. Matthew Fitt, Scots Hoose. Thanks alsae tae the steerin committee, namely Jackie Cromarty (National Library), Kaite Welsh (Creative Scotland), Michael Hance (Scots Language Centre), Donald Smith (TRACS). An tae any A micht hae missed oot – the list cud be gey langer A’m shair – cheers!

ABOVE: Scots Scriever Hamish MacDonald

Ther are mony positives tae engagement wi Scots

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ABOVE: Scots Scriever Hamish MacDonald